Computers INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS.

Definition of a Computer:

A computer is an electronic machine that processes raw data to give information as output. **

A computer automatically accepts data & instructions as input from an Input device, stores them temporarily in its memory, then processes that data according to the instructions given, and finally transfers the processed data (Information) to an Output device.

-A computer is described as an *electronic device* because; it is made up of electronic components and uses electric energy (such as electricity) to operate.

A computer has an internal memory, which stores data & instructions temporarily awaiting processing, and even holds the intermediate result (information) before it is communicated to the recipients through the **Output devices**.

A computer will accept data in one form and produce it in another form. The data is normally held within the computer as it is being processed.

Program:

- * A computer **Program** is a set of related instructions written in the language of the computer & is used to make the computer perform a specific task (or, to direct the computer on what to do).
- e.co.uk ✤ A set of related instructions which specify how the data is to be processed.
- ✤ A set of instructions used to guide a computer through a process.

Data:

hat do not have much meaning to the Data is a collection of raw facts, figures or instruction user.

Data may be in form of number phabets/letters or syn bols, and can be processed to

TYPES OF DATA.

produce inform

There are two types/forms of data:

a). Digital (discrete) data:

Digital data is discrete in nature. It must be represented in form of numbers, alphabets or symbols for it to be processed by a computer.

- Digital data is obtained by counting. E.g. 1, 2, 3 ...

b). Analogue (continuous) data:

Analogue data is continuous in nature. It must be represented in physical nature in order to be processed by the computer.

Analogue data is obtained by measurement. E.g. Pressure, Temperature, Humidity, Lengths or currents, etc

The output is in form of smooth graphs from which the data can be read.

Data Processing:

- ✤ It is the process of collecting all items of data together & converting them into information.
- Processing refers to the way the data is manipulated (or handled) to turn it into information.